

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

& WESTERN FRUIT-GROWER.

Vol. 2.

AURELIA, IOWA, APRIL 1896.

No. 2.

**Barred
Plymouth
Rocks.**

Do You Want Eggs

For hatching from good birds of standard quality and large size? My yards are mated to give satisfaction. Send in your order now. Eggs \$1.50 per setting.

MRS. H. E. SANBORN,
Fairbank, Iowa.

**Golden
and
Buff**

Wyandottes

EGGS \$2 PER SETTING

In Golden I have a 94 point cock with 12 pullets scoring from 90 to 93 points.

In Buffs I have a fine cockerel from Forsyth with 12 fine pullets—Thiem strain. Other yards as good. I do not inbreed. Satisfaction assured.

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LIQUID**

Lice Killer

Kills all mites, bed bugs, fleas, etc., about the poultry house and all body lice on the fowls, by simply painting it on the roosts and dropping boards with an ordinary paint brush. Circulars with testimonials, free.

GEO. H. LEE, Exeter, Nebraska.
For Sale by B. R. OLDS, Aurelia, Iowa,
One-half gal 50c; 1 gal. 75c; 5 gal. \$3.

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Poultry Yards

A. H. LANE, Proprietor.
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Eggs from high class Light Brahmas, P. Cochins, Barred P. Rocks, R. C. B. Leghorns and Black Minorcas. Circular free.

All-Free Poultry Yards.

BAXTER, IOWA,

Will mail you free their fine illustrated catalogue.

Mansfield Poultry Company,

Breeders of thoroughbred Silver Laced Wyandottes, Light Brahmas, Single Comb Brown Leghorns, Single Comb White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks and Bronze Turkeys. Send for catalogue.

Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

Buff Wyandottes
EXCLUSIVELY.

Three Grand Pens

Of the best laying strains in existence. Eggs \$2 per 13, three settings for \$5. No further discount.

MY BIRDS WIN

In the hands of customers. Read what one of them says:

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The cockerel arrived all o. k. Don't think I could have found a bird anywhere to suit me any better. Sent him over to St. Louis, won 1st.

Yours truly,

S. N. WEAVER.

Send in your orders early and I will please you.

P. D. WINE, Aurelia, Iowa.

**Everett Early Six Weeks
Seed Potatoes**

The best early potato in existence. No one will dispute this who has given them a trial. Only 50 cents a bushel. Never before offered for less than \$1.25 a peck

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FOR 1896
IS FREE.
SEND FOR IT

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Cupid Sweet Pea.

The only dwarf sweet pea in existence. YOU WANT IT.

EGGS!

B. P. Rocks, fine stock, 15 eggs for \$2.00
W. P. " " " " " " 1.50

D. B. KETTERMAN,
Nursery, Illinois.

Barred and White

*

**Plymouth
Rocks,**

And Colored Muscovy Ducks

Are our specialties. Eggs \$2 per 13; \$3.50 per 26. Duck eggs \$2.50 per 11. We have 11 other varieties, and guarantee to please our customers or quit the business. Order early. A 2-cent stamp gets our illustrated catalogue.

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Indianapolis, Indiana.

White Ply. Rock Cockerels For Sale.

Good, fair birds for a dollar that are worth double the money.

ALFRED ANDREY, Aurelia, Iowa.

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WE WARRANT

THE RELIABLE



SELF-REGULATING

To hatch 80 per cent of the fresh and fertile eggs. Hundreds of recent testimonials! Have this year (1896) issued our Eleventh Annual Poultry Guide and Combined Catalogue in one valuable book.

PROFITS IN POULTRY!

This 148-page, fully illustrated Poultry Guide tells you about profits in poultry; about hatching eggs with machines; about brooding chicks without hens. We have for sale sixteen popular kinds of thoroughbred fowls; also full line of Poultry Supplies—anything you want. Price of Guide, 10 cents in stamps—worth one dollar. Address, RELIABLE INCUBATOR AND BROODER CO., Quincy, Ill.

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N. S. Beardsley Strain. Exclusively.

Large Frame
Fine Barring

Eggs \$2.00 per Sitting. No Stock for sale.
Care of First National Bank.
Yards at 653 Burr Street.
F. A. NIENHAUSER.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

GREER'S BARRED Plymouth Rocks

SILVER LACED WYANDOTTES,

....AND....

S. C. Brown Leghorns,

Are from the

Best Strains in America.

Eighteen years experience enables me to Mate For Best Results. Eggs this season \$2.00 for 15. My circular shows the most beautiful cut of a pullet I ever saw. Address

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The best family washing machine made. A ten year old child can operate it. Saves soap, time, labor, temper. No rubbing necessary; machine and county rights in Iowa for sale. Address
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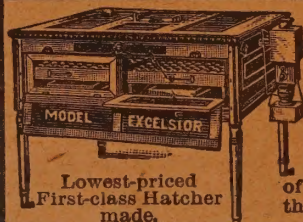
Michigan Poultry Breeder.

A 20-page poultry paper devoted to poultry, pigeons, pet stock, diseases, remedies, etc. A paper that every breeder should have to refer to, only 50 cts a year. Sample copy, 6 cents.

Game Fanciers' Journal.

The oldest, cheapest, largest and best paper published, entirely devoted to the interest of the game fancier, breeder and cocker. Only 50 cents a year. Sample copy, 6 cents.

GEO. S. BARNES,
Battle reek, Mich.



Hatch Chickens by Steam
WITH THE MODEL

EXCELSIOR Incubator

Simple, Perfect, Self-regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost, than any other Hatcher.



THE WOODEN HEN

the most efficient incubator for raising poultry on a small scale ever invented. A perfect hatcher—automatic, self-regulating, thoroughly constructed, fully guaranteed. 28 egg capacity. Catalog free.

GEO. H. STAHL, Sole Manufacturer, 114 to 122 S. 6th St., QUINCY, ILL.

EGGS

For hatching from high-scoring, thoroughbred S. C. Brown Leghorns, S. and Golden Wyandottes, B. Ply. Rocks and Mammouth Pekin Ducks, \$1.25 per 13.

Also very fine well rooted strawberry plants of the best varieties. Price, 50 cents per 100 plants. Everything first class. Write for new catalogue.

Box 732 R. F. NEUBERT, Mankato, Minn.

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In old times men used their power of painting to show the objects of their faith, in later times they used the objects of their faith to show their power of painting.—RUSKIN.

It is profitable to have faith in the power of PATTON'S PAINT. It saves time and labor because of its great covering capacity. It's more economical because of its marvelous durability. Rain or shine, it neither blisters, peels or fades.

PATTON'S PURE LIQUID PAINT

is the only paint fully guaranteed. Beware of pure "white lead paint."

\$1.50 per gallon. Freight paid to any R. R. station east of Denver. A booklet "How to Increase the size of your Home (with paint)," free for the asking, or 18 actual combinations of proper house coloring for four 2-cent stamps, or free from our agents.

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Whinery's Improved -- Chesters

Are very Growthy, Prolific, Easy feeders. Go to every state, Canada and Mexico. 900 sold in 1895, over 1000 for 1896. Catalogue free.

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A 16-page monthly, 25c per year
WILLIS WHINERY, Salem, Ohio.

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AURELIA, IOWA, APRIL 1896.

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Hatch All You Can.

A serious mistake is made when a breeder of full blood poultry decides to hatch out just the number of birds he needs for his pens the succeeding season, thus calculating that everything he succeeds in raising to maturity will be fully qualified for a breeder. There will be culls in all flocks. The oldest and most carefully bred strains will not be free from them. These defective specimens must be discarded if the owner has any well grounded hope of maintaining a flock of high value. The remedy is to conduct the hatching operations on as large a scale as possible. Begin early in the season but do not continue them to a later period than will permit of the chicks reaching a suitable size for exhibition by the time that the winter shows begin. Let the hatching go on regardless of the number of fowls required for stocking the breeding pens of the following year. When this plan is pursued the breeder will have the best of opportunities for making up pens of birds of uniform size, shape and marking, and the temptation to use defective specimens will be removed.

We are frequently advised to hatch out no more birds than we can properly care for. We prefer to advise our readers to prepare themselves to care for all that they can hatch out. If they are scarce of coops in which to shelter them, let them make others. We can scarcely conceive of a case where this cannot be done. There is nothing expensive about fitting up a shelter which will admirably answer the needs of the young stock during the warm months of summer. A few boards of the lowest quality and a roll of tarred paper is all that is required for this purpose. The broods will be far better off in coops of this description than in the houses designed for their use in winter. Where the range is not lacking there is no excuse for overcrowding on the score of a

scarcity of coops.

Even in the west, at a long distance from the best markets, the surplus stock will always sell for what it has cost to rear it, provided it is sent off in the proper season. Close culling is the key to success in the fancy poultry business. Every breeder of wide reputation will bear testimony to this fact. And it goes without saying that there can be no close culling unless you have something to cull from.

Fertile Eggs.

When one is offering eggs of thoroughbred fowls for sale to breeders, it is to his interest, of course, to have as many of them hatch as possible, as he thereby pleases his customer and adds to the chances of again getting orders from him in the future. The fact has impressed itself upon all experienced breeders that the secret of fertile eggs is not entirely solved by the mating, but is determined to a large extent by the feed which the hens receive and the conditions under which they are kept.

The question of fertile eggs is one of supreme importance at this time of year. Every breeder who is in the business to stay needs to study it closely, and carefully treasure up every new fact concerning it which comes in his way. The oldest breeder encounters mysteries here which appear to be beyond explanation. But fertile eggs in reasonable proportion can usually be secured by the observance of a few rules in connection with the management of the flock, and these things it is never safe to neglect.

Green, succulent food of some kind is a thing of the utmost importance as the hatching season approaches. Where it is possible provision should be made for this in the fall by sowing wheat or rye in the run. A liberal ration of meat scraps or green cut bone in connection, and a lessening of the grain ration of the winter, will, other things being

right, ordinarily insure fertile eggs. If the hens have been closely confined during the winter the enlargement of the boundaries of their run will be of advantage. It is a safe rule to give all the range possible compatible with the security of the flock from outside contamination. Presuming that the flock is in perfect health, when the breeder has done all this he has about reached the end of his rope. And he can never rest secure in the conviction that his best efforts will suffice to attain the object desired. When he has exhausted all the means at his command to that end, he will sometimes be completely mystified by the lack of the fertility of the eggs. Of course he knows there is a cause for this, but it lies beyond the reach of his ken.

Much complaint and contention would be avoided if the fact was more generally understood that the best breeders have no certain method of insuring the fertility of the eggs which they sell. The most careful and painstaking poultryman cannot hope to always escape censure on this score even when he has neglected no available means for giving his patrons the worth of their money.

The Same Results by Different Means.

The continuous feeding of oats in liberal quantities has proved disastrous to nine-tenths of those who have practiced it, and yet we have recently met with an intelligent breeder of ripe experience who assured us that he makes oats the exclusive grain ration even when his hens are confined and do not have access to other kinds of feed. This breeder keeps full blood Brown Leghorns, and is the possessor of a high scoring flock. We thus have further proof that the experience of no two men runs exactly in the same lines. One accomplishes the results which he is seeking by means which would lead to absolute failure when practiced by others. Poultry breeders will lose a large share of their egotism and be better prepared for the work which they have in hand when they are ready to recognize this as a fact.

Be Good Natured.

If misunderstandings and disappointments occur in connection with our business relations with others we gain nothing by losing our temper and writing discourteous letters to those who we have reason to believe have misused us. It will be found nine times out of ten that there has been no intention to defraud us—that the circumstance which has given rise to the suspicion of dishonesty was something which was entirely accidental or wholly beyond the control of the party against whom we think we have just cause of complaint. A respectful letter will nearly always make matters right if it is something which is not beyond remedy. Men of large affairs understand this and are not in the habit of writing abusive letters to those with whom in the regular course of business they must have dealings. Though serious mistakes often occur, they have trained themselves to look upon this as something which cannot be avoided, and accept it as a part of the annoyances and discomforts incident to business.

But the man who sends another a \$1.50 for a setting of eggs often has a habit of flying all to pieces if they don't hatch as well as he thinks they ought to, and writes ugly letters to the seller. Such letters usually have no other effect than to demonstrate the want of good sense and breeding on the part of the writer. The person to whom they are sent, if he knows he has done no wrong in connection with the deal, will not be in the least affected by them, further than to be inspired with a feeling of contempt for the writer; and if he has knowingly been guilty of downright dishonesty, he cannot be abused into abandoning the error of his ways. A self-respecting person will find very little comfort in the act of "relieving his mind" by telling this individual what he thinks of him. He don't care a continental what you think of him after he has succeeded in making you a victim of his dishonest practices.

While it has recently been alleged that the majority of poultry breeders are full of deceit and dishonesty, and wholly indifferent to the interests of those who purchase eggs of them, the charge is utterly without foundation or excuse. Poultrymen are as honest as other people, and use the same effort to supply their patrons with what they

order as do men in other lines of business. It is safe to accept this as a fact in our dealings with fellow breeders, and if we occasionally get something on our hands radically different from what we desired and paid for, to attribute it to a mistake and not a fraudulent intent. If we write to the seller in a becoming spirit we will find that in nearly every case he will be more than willing to reimburse us for any inconvenience or loss which we have suffered as the result of his mistake. It will save a great deal of trouble and hard feeling if we all keep this in mind, and in the wording of our letters not lose sight of the fact that we ourselves are liable to the same kind of a mistake. None of us like to be abused for what we cannot help. And try as hard as we may, not one of us will succeed in keeping entirely free from mistakes.

There are dishonest breeders. We have had abundant proof of it. This is not written with a view to shielding them from anything which their victims may give them. We are only pleading for fair treatment of those who are putting forth every effort to do business on the square, but who, in common with all their fellows, cannot always escape the suspicion of carelessness, or something worse.

A Great Discovery.

The latest discovery which Professor Somebody or other has made is that a chicken's gizzard is a regular chemical laboratory, and possesses the power of converting most anything into a well balanced ration. Feed your chickens on anything which happens to be most convenient, and it is just the same as giving them corn and wheat and oats and cut bone. That wonderful apparatus, the gizzard, will find the elements of all these substances in any kind of provender which may be given to them, will sort them out, and deposit them in that part of the hen's anatomy where they will do the most good. According to this important discovery, we are wasting a great deal of time and energy in giving our chickens a variety of feed. All we need to do is to fill up the hens with anything which we find lying around most handy, and the gizzard will do the rest. These professors are great fellows. It is amazing what marvelous things they can find out just by sitting around in their carpeted studies

and delving into their musty books. It is not at all necessary for them to keep chickens in order to give pointers in poultry culture to the oldest and smartest breeders. The next thing we may expect to hear will be that a ration of sawdust and crushed brickbats is as good a feed for the chickens as anything else. It's all in the gizzard, you know.

If you know of a pile of old plaster in your neighborhood which has been carried out of a house which has been remodeled you will be well paid for going and getting a load of it and dumping it where it will be accessible to the fowls. It will not be necessary to explain to the hens what it is for.

No one can build up a permanent trade in thoroughbred poultry without retaining the good will and continued patronage of those with whom he has business. A pleased patron is the best advertisement which the poultry breeder can have.

If the eggs under the setting hens become badly soiled, they must be thoroughly cleaned with warm water or they will not hatch.

Strawberry Plants.

FREE.

We have made arrangements with a reliable nurseryman of this state to supply us with a choice lot of strawberry plants which we propose to give to subscribers to the MESSENGER. To all sending in a subscription to the paper at the regular price—25 cents—we will have mailed to them postpaid one dozen strawberry plants, provided the subscriber wants them and asks for them. The collection will consist of 8 Warfield and 4 Wilson, both splendid varieties. Extra plants in each package. These plants would cost forty cents if ordered of the nursery. Remember the MESSENGER one year and the plants for only 25 cents. These plants put in the ground now and carefully looked after during the summer will supply a family with all the strawberries they need by another year.

They Will Not "Chill."

By John Bennett, Sunman, Ind.

I see that the editor of the MESSENGER, as well as many of my customers, hold to the idea that eggs will chill if exposed to cold, though not freezing weather. I in my younger days thought so too. One evening, years ago, I forgot to bring in some eggs one evening, and they were left in the wood shed lying on a gerth entirely unprotected. Simply as a matter of experiment I set them with others. The result was that two out of three of them hatched. The night that they laid out the ground froze hard, and where the eggs laid it surely was close to the freezing point. I have tested others exposed to 40 degrees, and they hatched. A cold storage man told me he set some eggs in the spring after they had been in storage all winter at 32 degrees, and some of them hatched. Facts are better than theories, and these are facts. I have shipped eggs to all parts of the country at a time of year when it is generally supposed that it would not be safe to do so. A quotation or two from letters received from customers to whom I have sent eggs in midwinter and early spring may not be amiss.

I. H. Ream, Coral, Michigan, to whom I sent eggs January 31st wrote as follows:

"I have ten nice, strong, healthy chicks I am well pleased, and know where to go for eggs. Thanking you for your kindness and honesty, I remain yours truly.

E. Harrison & Sons, of Paola, Florida, were sent 55 eggs on January 30th, and this is what they wrote us:

"Here is another feather in your cap. We have 50 chicks from the 55 eggs you sent us. We could not be better pleased. You understand the business sure. Eggs were well packed."

I could produce any amount of evidence of this kind going to show that a large number of people who have never submitted the matter to a test entertain an erroneous idea on this subject.

Test the Eggs.

An egg tester is something everyone should own, even though they do not intend to set more than a dozen hens. Some have an idea that an egg tester is a complicated device costing several dollars. A tester which will answer every purpose can be bought for fifty cents. By its means all the unfertile eggs can be removed from under the hens, thus making it easier for her to

cover what remain, besides lessening the liability of breakage. Or if three or four hens are set at one time, all the fertile eggs can be given to two or three, and the remaining hen reset with a fresh lot. This is no small advantage in the early spring when broody hens are most wanted but are often very scarce.

The Best Only.

Breed only from the best. If one has a dozen hens of a certain breed, four of which are first-class and the others only "fair to middling," reject the latter and breed only from the four. It is the only way to establish a flock of really fine birds. Most of us are too much inclined to hold on to stock which we know is defective, thinking that we can overcome the faults by mating with something better. And so we can if the world don't come to an end, and we are permitted to remain in it long enough. But life is too short for us to be fooling away our time in that way. We will have all we can do to reach our ideals by the shortest and easiest route open to us, and we show very poor judgment when we needlessly add to the difficulties of our progress towards the end at which we are aiming. The youngest breeder will be considerably crowded for time if he entertains the hope of breeding up a flock of fowls equal to the best in their line by continually introducing into it the blood of culls.

An Unsettled Question.

The fowl that refused to come into the poultry house last fall, but staid out all through winter and roosted in an open shed, or even in the tree tops, will be found to be enjoying excellent health. Its comb may be frozen off close down to its head, and probably the ends of some of its toes are missing, but there is no swelling of the head, wheezing, or other signs of the roup about it. This fowl furnishes food for a little sober reflection on the subject of ventilation. It will not be denied that there is abundance of fresh air up in the tree tops during an Iowa winter, but we cannot conceive of the presence of anything also up there which would be particularly conducive to a chicken's health. A great deal of discussion has taken place in the poultry papers on ventilation, but it is evident that much is yet to be learned on the subject even by

the best informed poultrymen. All admit that ventilation is important, but the best manner of securing it without opening the way for deadly diseases is a question which is far from settled.

MILLVILLE, MINN. April 8, 1896.
The Leghorn Home,
Merriam Park, Minn.

Gentlemen: The Incubator, Brooder and 200 eggs came to hand O. K. about three weeks ago. I was surprised at the looks of the machine as your circulars led me to believe that it was a plain looking concern, but I find it is as nice a looking machine as I ever saw. The hatch came off yesterday and we got 156 chicks, which I consider a no. 1 hatch for this time of year. Have seen a good many regulators and incubators but yours beats them all, is simply out of "sight."

This hatch will sell a good many machines in this neighborhood, and you may expect to hear from me soon again. Thanking you for promptness, I remain

Yours for Leghorns,

JOHN F. RYAN.

Pilot Rock NURSERIES

The best of everything in the line of nursery stock at

Hard Times Prices.

I am prepared to fill orders for fruit trees in any amount, blackberry raspberry and strawberry plants,

EVERGREENS AND

FOREST TREES.

And, in fact, everything which can be supplied by any first-class nursery.

Write for Price List,

Or call at nursery two miles east, and two and a half miles south of Cherokee, Iowa. Address

PILOT ROCK NURSERIES,
Cherokee, Iowa.



THE IMPROVED SUCCESSFUL INCUBATOR

Write now.
Des Moines Incubator Co.
Box 40 Des Moines, Ia.

SUCCESSFUL INCUBATOR
Our magnificent new catalogue giving full information regarding artificial Hatching & Brooding and treatise on poultry raising sent for 4c stamps. Circular free.

Natural Conditions.

Thousands of little chicks are stuffed to death. People in their anxiety to prevent them from suffering for the want of something to eat make it a point to keep food before them all the time. The result is that they are kept gorged with food, and much of it which is not eaten at the time it is given lies around until it is soured, and thus becomes a source of disease. During the first few weeks the chicks should be fed at short intervals—five times a day is not too often, but the quantity given should be very small. As soon as they are strong enough to follow the hen, turn her out on a grassy range and let her find for them a large part of their living. Be sure that the range is not overcrowded and then feed lightly only morning and night. Have a good shelter to which they can retreat in case of storm, and leave them to a large extent to look after their own needs. Many of the weakly ones will drop out of the race, but their loss will be a small matter by comparison with the increased hardiness of those that survive. Health if everything in a flock of fowls, and this they cannot have in perfection without abundant exercise, and such a variety of food as can only be found on the range. We cannot much improve on nature's method, except to provide safe housing from foul weather, and give protection from the enemies to which the flock is liable to fall a prey. We are firmly of the opinion that the overfeeding and pampering of young chickens is about as serious a mistake as the breeder can make.

Before Painting

This season send for the catalogue of the Jas. E. Patton Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and learn their prices on the best ready mixed paints that are made. You cannot utilize a postage stamp to better advantage. This firm has a large trade throughout the country, and there is no question about the superiority of their paint. They will save you money if you will give them the chance to do so.

A Good Business.

A bright young man who might be holding down a clerkship at \$500 a year told this writer less than a week ago that he had thus far this spring sold eggs and thoroughbred fowls to the

amount of \$800. He can safely calculate on his sales reaching \$1200 before the season is over. He keeps only two breeds, and by careful breeding has made his flocks equal to the best which any of the older breeders are able to offer to the public. He has thus established a permanent business, and laid the foundation for a competence which will put him beyond the reach of want in his old age. Is there no money in the poultry business? Let us find our answer to the question in the experience of this young man and hundreds like him who have been able to reap a rich harvest in a field where so many others have failed.

Boiled Wheat.

Boiled wheat is excellent for chicks. They appear to have a great relish for it, and it makes a good change for them to give them a feed of it once a day. Enough of it can be boiled in an old kettle on the kitchen stove to last a hundred chicks the better part of a week. When the boiling is completed the excess of water must be poured off, otherwise the kernels will become soaked, in which condition the feeding of them is attended with some risk.

Aim High and Work Hard.

If you have decided to make a business of poultry keeping, have full confidence in your ability to produce as good stock as anybody else. If you are young, don't allow yourself to believe that you will be obliged to wait till you are old and gray headed before you can go into the show room and compete with the breeders who at present stand at the top of the heap. Some of the best known breeders to-day are not old enough to take a seat in the American congress if they had the misfortune to be elected to the office. But if you are aiming for a front seat you must make up your mind to work for it. You will never get it any other way. You will need to work all day, and do a middling bit of it at night besides. Don't dilly-dally, and don't be full of enthusiasm one day and sunk in the depths of despondency the next. Keep your courage up, hold to a steady gait, work and study till your bones ache and your head is dizzy, and you are bound to win. You can be less energetic and still be moderately successful, but if you want to attain to a place among the leaders

you will never get there unless all the powers which you possess are fully devoted to that end.

The White and Black Langshans bred by Mrs. M. A. Smith, of Gilman, Iowa, are birds of the highest merit, as a large number of her patrons in every part of the country are ready to testify. Those in want of Langshans will never regret having opened up a correspondence with Mrs. Smith.

LEGHORNS Rose Comb Brown EXCLUSIVELY.

My Leghorns have won and will win. 20 eggs for a dollar, packed light, shipped prompt. Circular free.

No. 10 Cures: **ROUP.** Warranted to. 50 cts a bottle

Bull Terriers, the Poultryman's dog. Fair and honest dealings.

FASHION KENNELS,
Hawarden, Iowa

What a Lot of Eggs

the hens lay when fed on Green Cut Bone: With a dozen hens

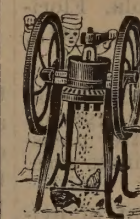


MANN'S

Green

Bone Cutter

Will pay for itself in a short time in the increase of eggs.



Five Dollars buys one

SENT ON TRIAL.

180 Highest Awards Received.

Catalogue free if you mention this paper.

F. W. MANN CO.
MILFORD, MASS

THE COMET
SPRAY & FORCE
PUMP

SPRAY
YOUR TREES
PLANTS & VINES

ASPRAYER
& HAND PUMP COMBINED.

ALL BRASS FOR \$2.50.

THOUSANDS IN USE.
SELLS ON SIGHT. DOUBLE ACTING.
THROWS WATER 60 FEET.

BOOK OF
SPRAYING RECIPES FREE

EVERY FARMER & FRUIT GROWER
SHOULD SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

IF AN INTEREST YOU LIVE AGENTS WANTED

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JOHNSTOWN OHIO, U.S.A.

POULTRY DISEASES The most valuable treatise on Roup, Sorehead, diphtheritic sore throat, Canker mouth, Catarrh, etc., ever written. **Absolutely free.** Send 3 cents in stamps to pay postage.

WALTER KIRBY & CO., Marietta, O.

Give Them a Rest.

Eggs which have been received from a distance should be allowed to rest at least forty-eight hours before being placed under the hen. This is a matter of more importance than many people will allow, but it is important, all the same. The fact that somebody or other had shipped to him a setting of eggs from a long distance, gave them to the hen the same day they were received, and obtained a good hatch, cuts no figure in the case. Such is not the usual result. Other things being equal, the eggs which have been allowed to rest a spell will produce the most chicks, and chicks of greater strength and vigor. This has been demonstrated by the test of repeated and careful experiments—experiments conducted according to a scale and system entirely beyond the scope of anything of the kind which could be embraced within any one man's personal experience. The jostling which the eggs receive by transportation from one point to another does lessen their liability to hatch, and the injury thus done is in a measure repaired by permitting them to rest a few days before giving them over to incubation. Nothing can be lost, while much may be gained, by accepting this as a well proven fact.

A Good Hatch.

Eight chicks out of one setting of eggs is regarded as a good hatch. No matter if somebody has obtained thirteen or even fifteen, eight strong, active chicks constitute a good hatch. This is conceded by the owners of the most extensive poultry farms in the land—men who hatch chickens by the thousands every year, and is disputed only by people who hatch them by the hundred, and a very few hundred at that. If experience counts for anything, it is well for us to have in mind at the present time what those who have had the most of it look upon as a good hatch. It is just eight chicks. Let us not forget it. It may save us disappointment. And it may be the means of preventing us from thinking things about others which we "hadn't ought to."

Keep Them Out.

Make it a point to prevent the lice from obtaining a foothold in the poultry house. It will not cost a hundredth

part of the time and labor to do this that it will to dislodge them after they have obtained possession there. With the various insecticides now on the market, there is not a particle of excuse for anybody's poultry being tormented by these pests.

Cracklings Are Good and Cheap.

In the absence of a better meat supply, pressed cracklings may be fed to the laying hens with excellent results. The crackling cakes can usually be obtained at any meat market at trifling cost.

The Male Bird.

It is of the utmost importance that the male should be a strong, active bird, proud stepping and of upright carriage. We cannot conceive of a condition of things which would lead us to breed from one not of this character no matter what might be his form or markings, or of that of the hens to which he might be mated. Anything which is gained at the sacrifice of constitutional vigor is obtained at a greater cost than it is worth.

Eleven Eggs Enough.

The experience of many of the best poultry breeders has proved that eleven eggs are enough to put under one setting hen. The tendency is to go beyond this number, but it appears to be a well attested fact that there is nothing gained by so doing.

Good Layers.

The writer is the owner of fifteen pullets which have averaged eleven eggs a day for sixty days. There has been no male with these pullets, as it is not our purpose to use them as breeders. We cannot bring ourself to believe that the presence of the male would have bettered this result.

Valuable Suggestion.

The following from the New England Homestead we regard as a good suggestion.

"I have found a teaspoonful of carbolic acid to a basket of warm bran mash the best remedy for bowel disease. I never had any success putting it in the drinking water. The fowls refused to touch it, though no other water was furnished. I saved a Langshan and a Brahma two years ago by shutting them in a coop for several days with no food or drink except that con-

taining the acid. They refused food awhile, but at last began to eat a little and recovered."

Single comb White and Brown Leghorns in their perfection can be had at the Leghorn Home, Merriam Park, Minnesota. The firm in charge also manufactures the Leghorn Drinking Fountain, and in proper season furnishes green cut bone and clover at the lowest price. The reader will find them good people to deal with.

BLACK LANGSHANS.

We are shipping eggs now. Sitings from prize and other high scoring stock at \$3.00 per 15; \$2. each additional sitting. Don't delay. Order now.

C. D. BATES, Au Sable, Mich.

Barred Plymouth Rocks.**Buff Plymouth Rocks**
Exclusively.**A Clean Sweep**

At Jackson, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, Michigan, '95 and '96.

Choice Breeders For Sale.

My matings this season must produce grand results. My birds are remarkable for their large size, fine symmetry, and true Cochin color.

G. W. HAMM,

Battle Creek, Michigan.

Golden Wyandottes,**AND Golden Seabright Bantams.****EXCLUSIVELY.**

Eggs in season, \$1.50 per setting; two settings \$2.50. Stock for sale.

Our Stock Has Won

Many prizes for our patrons. We have shown but once, a pen of Bantams at the Rockford, Illinois, show, January, 1896. We won four prizes on them, score 90½, 94, 93, 93, 93.

J. J. BEAN, Abbotsford, Wisconsin.

CURES
CAROWE Roup

In poultry. Price 50 cents. Walter Kirby & Co., Marietta, Ohio.

The New Express Rate.

The late ruling of the express companies concerning the new rate on breeding fowls, when cooped in accordance with the specified directions, does not appear to be fully understood by the employes of all the companies, or else for reasons which can only be imagined are knowingly disregarded. Several complaints have reached this office from shippers who say the agents have expressed entire ignorance of such a ruling and required them to pay the old extortionate rate. The companies themselves are evidently playing perfectly fair in the matter, as the following from the Reliable Poultry Journal goes to show, which is explanatory of the rates referred to. If any shipper is denied the advantage of these rates he can probably obtain justice by laying the matter before the officials of the company into whose hands the fowls have been given. Where this is contemplated, however, care should be taken to have a witness of the manner of crating before the fowls are placed aboard the cars. It is not to be apprehended that any large proportion of poultrymen will meet with any trouble of this nature, but in those rare cases in which this species of robbery is attempted it is well enough for them to be prepared to get their dues. Following is the clipping from the journal above mentioned:

"Cloth-covered coops—coops made of wood, of a strength and size that would be acceptable for transportation without any cloth covering, at the single rate, may be accepted at the same rate when an additional covering in part or in whole of cloth is added to protect the fowls from draught or injury. Double merchandise rates should be charged on coops on which cloth is used for the purpose of making the coop, enclosing and confining the fowls, and which would not be safe and satisfactory shipping coops without the cloth."

The above is the language of a high express company official, and it seems plain enough to prevent the possibility of a mistake on the part of any employe of sufficient intelligence necessary to the proper discharge of the duties required of him.

Try the MESSENGER a year for 25 cts. We will make it worth the money to you

More About Inbreeding.

Very fancy birds are hard to produce without some inbreeding. In fact it is claimed by some breeders of high reputation as utterly impossible to obtain the object sought after in the highest scoring birds without the mating of birds which are nearly related. But this inbreeding cannot be done without lowering the constitutional vigor of the flock, or else the judgment of ninety-tenths of those who are engaged in poultry culture is at fault. While some try to make it appear that such results do not attend the process, and speak in a kind of a commiserating way of those who stand for a general law of nature, these persons have not proven their case, and their authority is very far from being above question. It will take more testimony than has yet been offered on the subject before the thing which they contend for will be considered an established fact. The vast majority of poultrymen are likely to remain in the belief for a long time to come that close and continuous inbreeding, whatever may thereby be accomplished in external results, undermines the constitution of the fowls, and makes them more susceptible to disease than they otherwise would be. However learnedly they may talk to the contrary, the average poultry breeder will find in the avoidance of close inbreeding the side of safety, for the present at least.

Get the Best.

If you are expecting to obtain fine exhibition birds by means of third or fourth rate breeding stock, the chances are a hundred to one that you will be disappointed. And yet there are those at the present moment who from motives of mistaken economy are calculating upon that very thing. They will save four or five dollars in the cost of a couple of sittings of eggs, or a good male bird, and lose a dozen times the amount as the result of this short sighted policy. These people may take their birds to the poultry show next winter, but they will find that they are not "in it." And some well meaning judge will have to take the blame for it.

They May Not Be Spoiled.

If by some mishap the sitting hen should leave the nest where she had been supposed to be giving her undivided

attention to her duties, and should be gone for several hours, don't be in too much haste to conclude that the eggs are spoiled and proceed to cast them away. Surprisingly good hatches have often been obtained from eggs which have thus been exposed for a time which many would suppose would make them wholly worthless.

One Will Be Boss.

Two male birds in the same pen at the same time will be less effective than one. If two birds are at hand for the same pen give but one of them undisputed possession at the time, changing them on alternate days.

Anyone wishing to become proficient in the handling of poultry should send ten cents in stamps to the Des Moines Incubator Co., Des Moines, Iowa, for their book on practical poultry keeping

"Bean's Buffs"

Won 50 premiums

At Anoka December 20, to 25, 1895, Holden, Judge, and are not striving for business on the record of birds long dead and gone.

75 Fine Birds for Sale. 75

At reasonable prices. Try us. A full line of

Poultry Supplies

And Specialties of all kinds at Rock Bottom Prices. Terms cash. Circular and price list free if you mention the MESSENGER.

Anoka Buff Poultry Yards.
Lock Box 72. ANOKA, MINN.

RUTHERFORD BROS.

BREEDERS OF

* White Wonders.

The hardiest of all fowls, and the best general purpose breed for the north. One or two good cockerels for sale at \$3 each.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS,

Aurelia, Iowa.

The Hatching Room.

In a room ten feet square, fitted up with nests, it is just about as easy to look after a dozen setting hens as one. Means should be provided for confining each hen on her nest, and once a day all can be released and given twenty minutes in which to take food and water. The room of course must be fitted up in such a manner that they cannot make their escape from it. Almost every farm contains some outbuilding, all or a part of which, can be put to this use for a few weeks. A large bin on the south side of the barn can often be made to answer the purpose.

This sort of a hatching room will save an immense amount of trouble. The feeding and watering of all the setting hens on the place is accomplished in a few minutes, and when they are returned to their nests, and the fastenings to the same are in place, you have the comfort of knowing that they are attending to their business, and not leaving the nest and thereby spoiling the eggs. You know too that they are safe from prowling dogs and other four-footed marauders which "break up" so many setting hens when they are scattered about the place in the usual promiscuous manner. If you have never tried this method of conducting the hatching operations, prepare yourself for doing it that way the present year, and we think you will say that you like it.

Not In the Garden.

If one's garden is worth anything to him he had better not give it over as a range for the hens. Some people can give their hens the run of the garden without any injury to it. On the contrary, the hens are a benefit to it, so we are told. But you and I, reader, had better not try that. The chances are that we would make a failure of it. Some people can do almost anything, and those who can run a flock of chickens in the garden during the summer without any harm to the garden need not be afraid to tackle any kind of a hard job that comes in their way. A good deal of impractical advice finds its way into the poultry papers, and the MESSENGER, no doubt, contains its share, but it will draw the line at counseling people to make the attempt to raise chickens and a variety of good vegetables on the same plat of ground.

A New Remedy for Crop Bound.

J. H. Davis declares in the Practical Poultryman that the worst case of crop bound can be overcome by holding the fowl head downward and compressing the crop with the hand, thus forcing the mass into the throat and out of the mouth. This method, he says, has advantages over the one usually employed in such cases, that of cutting into the crop and expelling the mass through the opening thus made. In the latter case the bird is a week or more in recovering from the operation, whereas it is usually ready for a full meal immediately after undergoing the first named treatment, and a few hours later will appear none the worse on that account.

Leg Weakness.

Leg-weakness is the bane of brooder raised chicks. Every poultryman who raises chicks by artificial means has his own theory in regard to this, and his special method of preventing it. Some breeds are more subject to this than others—the chicks of certain breeds being generally rejected, owing to their liability to be carried off in this manner. It has lately been alleged by several persons who are extensively engaged in the rearing of broilers that the White Wyandottes are stronger on their legs than any other breed suitable for that purpose, declaring that they will stand up under feeding which would certainly knock the legs from under the Plymouth Rocks or Brahmas.

Dampness.

Dampness is more fatal to your chickens than cold. A week of steady rainy weather will tell more severely upon the chicks than the same amount of dry, cold weather. In fitting up the nursery coops for the early hatched chicks they should be made as warm as possible, and especial care should be taken to have them free from dampness. This can be accomplished by having the floor of the coop raised several inches above the surrounding level.

Somewhat Mixed.

A correspondent in an influential western agricultural journal furnishes the following important piece of information to its readers:

"The express companies seem to have been looking over the field, and they

probably see the smoke of many a battle yet to come in the dim future. They have reduced the express on poultry to be shown at the poultry exhibitions. This, I think, is done with the knowledge that the poultry shows seldom pay premiums. No reduction, however, has been made on fine birds shipped for breeding purposes."

The winners at the poultry shows will be hatched not later than this month. The late hatched chicks are good enough in their way, but their way is not that of capturing the prizes at the early winter poultry shows.

THE Leghorn Home,

MARRIAM PARK, MINN.

S. C. W. Leghorns S. C. B.
EXCLUSIVELY.

Winners wherever shown. Send for circular No. 2.

Leghorn Incubator.

Our Own Make.

Constructed on the latest and Most Scientific Principles. Guaranteed to do the work or money refunded. Most simple and accurate regulator of heat yet invented. Made, used and sold by practical poultrymen. Send for Circular No. 21.

Agents Wanted.

Incubator ON TRIAL.



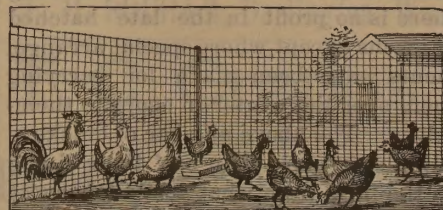
Try it before you buy it

Highest Award World's Fair.

Plans of Brooders, Houses, etc., 25 cts. Judge of Incubators at World's Fair

says: "If I were going to buy for myself I would give the Von Culin the preference." Book Incubation, 5 cts.

Von Culin Incubator Co, Delaware City, Del.



CABLED POULTRY AND GARDEN FENCE,
Manufactured by
DEKALB FENCE CO., DEKALB, ILL.

Guineas and Rats.

"What are Guineas good for?" asks the editor of the Reliable Poultry Journal. We are not sure that we know, but we will repeat what an old farmer told us a short while ago. We had noticed that this farmer always kept a large flock of guineas about him and when we asked for his reasons for so doing, he replied: "They keep away the rats." He then explained that some years before his farm buildings were overrun with rats, and that he observed that the rats disappeared soon after a flock of guineas was brought upon the place. After a time the guineas were made way with and then the rats returned, but deserted the premises when another flock was procured. Since then he always has the guineas around, and a rat is seldom seen on the place. He does not contend that the guineas kill the rats, but is sure that their presence in some way keeps them at a distance. If he is right in his belief, the question, "What are guineas good for?" is answered.

Probably it is worth mentioning in this connection that it is a common belief that the shrill note of the guinea frightens away the hawks, and that they are thus a protection to the other feathered creatures of the place that are liable to become the prey of these free-booters of the air. And finally, roast guinea is highly relished by some people, this writer himself confessing that he has a weakness for it, as it has a "wild" flavor not possessed by the flesh of any other domesticated fowl. But we do not keep guineas, and are not sure that it would be in the line of our duty to advise others to do so.

Five-Hundred to the Farm.

At least five-hundred chickens can be raised on a common sized farm every year and sold at a profit. But where this is done hatching should be begun early and discontinued before the advent of hot weather. As a usual thing there is no profit in the late hatched chickens except where special arrangements have been made for carrying them over the winter in coops to themselves. The above number of chickens will obtain more than half their living on the farm from what would otherwise be wasted. Where chickens are raised in such numbers the great mistake which is commonly made is in putting

off selling until late in the fall when the markets are overstocked and prices down to the lowest notch. Marketing should be begun as soon as the chicks will weigh two pounds, and what is not sold by the middle of September had better be kept till the following March. The very worst time to sell is in October and November.

Wont Stand Neglect.

No matter what their breeding, chickens must be properly cared for in order to attain their best. They must be hatched in season and their wants properly supplied, or else they will be scrubs, although they can count a host of prize winners among their ancestors.

It is simply a waste of money for people to buy high priced eggs unless they intend to give the chicks hatched therefrom good treatment. Such stock will not stand neglect. It has been brought to a high degree of perfection by the utmost care, not being allowed to want for anything necessary to its well being. Neglect and ill treatment will very soon make it over into something no better than the commonest native.

Chicks hatched at this time of year do not require an endless amount of attention, but certain things are necessary in order to keep them in health and give continuous growth, and if these things are not attended to with regularity and system, they will never attain to anything fit for the show room. If they are permitted to become lousy, are kept in close quarters without sufficient exercise, or without a proper variety of food, they will never grow up into fowls which anybody will feel any pride in owning. The difference in thoroughbreds is very often not so much the difference of blood as of treatment.

A Common Cause of Disease.

Gather up the dead fowls which have been thrown out during the winter and bury them at least two feet deep. Many a poultry keeper has had a bad run of the "cholera" which had its origin in the remains of a dead hen which had not been placed deep enough under ground to make it beyond the reach of the flock.

They Should Rustle.

When the chicks attain the age when they can "rustle" for themselves, let them rustle for the larger part of their

living. Give them good range and feed them but once a day. We regard it as best to give the feed at night, as this will tend to bring them home as evening approaches, and prevent their going to roost at a distance from the building. The feed is worse than wasted which is thrown down to the half-grown chicks three times a day, as it relieves them of the necessity of hunting for their living, and prevents the exercise which will develop the highest state of health.

Dime Curiosity Bargains.

Any Lot Sent Postpaid for a Silver Dime.

Chinese Package contains Chinese Lottery Ticket, Cash Coin Mock Money, Poker Chip and Writing Paper.

Marine Package contains Cowry, Sun Ray and Scallop Shells, Red Sea Bean, Alligator Tooth and Tarpon Scale.

Fossil Package contains Pentrimite, 3 crinoid stems and Recepticulities Owenii (a rare coral).

Relic Package contains New York Tribune during war, Old Almanac—1840, and "Little Brown Jug" watch charm.

Indian Relic Package contains 4 Imperfect Points, Pottery and Wampum.

Foreign Package contains striped Jasper Pebble, Africa; Sacred Lotus Seed; Japan; two Job's Tears, Arabia; Horned Nut, China.

R. E. BARTLETT,

ROCKFORD, ILL.

The American Poultry Advocate.

Clarence C. DePuy, publisher, Syracuse, N. Y., handsomely illustrated, 20 pages, 25c per year: 64-page illustrated practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers; book alone 10c; paper four months on trial 10c sample copy free.

WANTED

We want every reader of this journal, who is interested in poultry, to have a copy of NISSLY'S POULTRY ANNUAL and Catalog of "EVERYTHING FOR THE POULTRY YARD" for 1896 (12th year.) It's absolutely the most complete book of the kind published; 80 6x9 pages, finely illustrated, including eight half tone cuts of Michigan Poultry Farm. Tells all about the arrangement of our buildings; our 24 Grand Breeding Pens for '96. It describes and illustrates the BIGGEST and CHEAPEST stock of Poultry Supplies in America; tells all about our New American Incubator and Brooder. It's full of information and worth dollars to every poultryman; don't miss it. The book is FREE to ALL but we request a 2c stamp for postage.

GEO. J. NISSLY, SALINE, MICH.

Will Do to Tie To.

The present buff craze rests upon a more substantial foundation than a passing fancy. There are practical reasons for the popularity of the buff color. In market poultry especially, which in this country must possess a yellow skin in order to command the top price, the buff feathering is a matter of no small importance. Poultry of this color when dressed will always appear to better advantage than that of any other color. The pin feathers which constitute an objection to the blacks, and all the darker colored breeds, are least conspicuous when they are of the buff hue. This fact alone will go far towards sustaining the feeling in favor of the buffs; and when this color can be secured without the sacrifice of any desirable quality distinctive of the breed, it may be safely concluded that the buffs have come to stay. And then if it is true, as is believed and contended by admirers of some of the buffs—the Wyandottes, in particular—that they are better layers than other varieties of the breed, there is an additional motive for giving them the preference over the others. As to this last point, poultrymen in general will be slow to credit it, but as it is alleged as a fact in a very positive manner by apparently truthful people who have had the best of opportunities for acquainting themselves with the characteristics of the variety, we must infer that there is a probability, at least, of the correctness of the claim. But whether this is true or not, the buff is bound to be a popular color, and it does not appear that there is the smallest likelihood of it ever falling into disfavor. He who is getting started in buffs of any standard breed, can be assured that he is the possessor of something that it will pay him well to keep.

Sulphur.

Do not place too much reliance in sulphur as a lice destroyer. Sulphur is a good thing to feed to the chickens in moderate quantities, and it makes a fairly good insect powder when mixed with carbolic acid and dusted among the feathers. But it is believed by many that if sulphur is fed to the hens until the whole system becomes impregnated with the flavor, the lice will thereby be made way with. Sulphur cannot be given to that extent without

also imparting the flavor to the eggs, and after all it is a very doubtful way of combatting the lice. There are better means of getting rid of them than that. Sulphur is an old-fashioned favorite which in these modern days can be very well dispensed with as a remedy for many of the ills for which it was formerly held in high repute.

What to Feed Setting Hens.

Don't feed the setting hens soft, mushy food. It is best to let them subsist entirely upon whole grain. It is doubtful if anything better can be given than whole corn, though many prefer to mix with the corn some wheat and oats. But it is generally agreed that the setting hens should not be given soft, watery feed. Such feed is liable to produce disorders of the bowels, and those who give it are likely to have much trouble with befouled nests. No one need hesitate to confine their hens to corn for three weeks. They will do all right on it, and end up the time in better condition than if given such a variety of feed as is deemed necessary for layers.

Educating Egg-Eaters.

The person who throws egg shells into the poultry yards just as they are left after being emptied of their contents in the kitchen, or at the breakfast table, has no one but himself to blame if he soon finds a lot of incorrigible egg-eating hens on his hands. It does not seem that a better way could be adopted for educating hens to that vice. While some contend that such results do not follow, we do not believe it will pay to take the risks, when it is such an easy matter to crush the shells before feeding.

The Way to Get the Best.

Breeders will sell eggs from their best matings, but they will seldom sell their best birds. This is one advantage of purchasing eggs. The buyer may get something as good as the breeder's best, which he could never do if he bought stock of him.

To Prevent Feather Eating.

It is said that a stop can be put to feather eating by rubbing the parts from which the feathers have been taken with an ointment composed of one part of creosote to thirty of lard.

The Fashion Kennels, at Hawarden, Iowa, are selling eggs from Rose Comb Leghorns at a very reasonable figure—20 for a dollar. We have the assurance that these eggs are from high scoring stock, and that the sellers observe special pains in packing so that the express charges will be as light as possible. The proprietors also breed Bull Terriers, and manufacture a well tried roup cure for which there is a large and growing demand.

Good Birds at Rock Bottom Prices.

Pure bred Black Langshans of both sexes. Cockerels \$1 each, pullets 50 cents. Also Light Brahma cockerels at same price. No better stock in Iowa.

MRS. J. A. BOYNTON,
Clarion, Wright county, Iowa.

BLACK

Langshans,

and B. Ply. ROCKS.

Langshan cockerels heading pen score 94 and 94½ points by Emry.

Langshan Eggs \$1.25 per sitting.
Ply. Rock " \$1.00 "

A Sixty per cent hatch guaranteed or order refilled free of cost.

M. PARROTT.

Aurelia, Iowa.

Here Again! LARGER Than Ever!

Over 100 Pages

Giving description of 85 choice

Pure Breeds

Of Poultry and prices of poultry. Prices of poultry in pairs and trios, and prices of eggs per sitting.

Symptoms and Cure

For all Known Poultry Diseases.

All kinds of Poultry Supplies at very low prices. This large book sent to any address for 15 cents.

E. H. RODHAM, Darlington, Wis.

T. C. Crepps,

—BREEDER OF—

Barred Plymouth Rocks Exclu'y.

Cockerels one dollar each, two for \$1.75. Eggs \$1.00 for 15; \$1.50 for 30.

T. C. CREPPS, Aurelia, Iowa

The Poultry Messenger.

AND

Western Fruit-Grower.

Published the 15th of every month by

The Messenger Company,
AURELIA, IOWA.

Subscription Price, 25 Cents per Year

ADVERTISING RATES,--Sixty Cents per
Inch, each insertion.

BREEDERS' CARDS.

Thirty words three months for seventy-five cents

The question as to whether cash prizes should be given at the poultry shows is of less importance than the one as to whether the poultry shows could be maintained without them. The practical results of a change of policy such as is being suggested are what must be first considered. We are in favor of doing away with the cash prizes if the shows can be made a success without them, but we recognize the importance of going a little slow in the matter until we hear more in regard to what exhibitors think about it.

Of all the disagreeable fellows in the world, there is nothing to beat the one who believes that his way of doing things is the right way, and that anyone who deviates in the slightest degree from it is just to that extent in the wrong. There are people of that kind in the poultry business; the fact must be admitted, however much it is regretted. The self-satisfaction which these people must enjoy can hardly atone for the tired feeling which they give to others who must stand and listen to them. All well informed and reasonable minded poultrymen are ready to confess that others may reach good success in the business by processes entirely different from their own.

Mr. Bennett, of Sunman, Indiana, has something to say in another column regarding the chilling of eggs, and the risks attending the hatching of eggs which have been exposed in a manner which it is generally supposed would destroy the life germ. Mr. Bennett has been a breeder for more than forty years and what he has to say on the subject is entitled to respect however incredible it may seem to younger people in the business. But we would like to

have an expression of opinion from others on the same subject.

Almost anybody is supposed to know enough to set a hen, and yet it would make a big difference in the poultry products of the country if all the people who think they know how to do this really could set a hen as it ought to be done.—Poultry Messenger.

Well, how do you set a hen? Don't hide your light under a bushel. Remember there are over sixty millions of people in this country anxiously awaiting your reply. Don't delay. The hour is at hand.—Inter-State Poultryman.

But for sympathy for the hen, and a belief in clean nesting boxes, we would suggest setting her in the mouth of the editor of Inter-State Poultryman. Whatever the hatch might be, it could not be anything worse than what ordinarily issues from that cavern of smut and impudence.

The Wood's Kitchen Cabinet is one of the most convenient pieces of furniture that can be brought into a household. What is the use of fitting the kitchen up with cumbersome shelving, or ill arranged cupboards, when an article of this kind can be obtained at so reasonable a cost? This cabinet gives a neat appearance to the kitchen, saves steps for those who work there, and is, withal, such a convenience that you will wonder after having the use of it for awhile how you ever managed to do without it. Look up the advertisement of the firm that makes it and write to them for a full description

The primary object of the MESSENGER is to make money for its patrons and its owners. The interests of the poultry industry at large are not a matter of unconcern, but they are subordinated to those first mentioned. If this is selfishness, we plead guilty to the charge. We regard our first duty to those who make it possible for us to live by means of the business in which we are engaged, and no particle of the paper's influence shall be given to others which can be used to their advantage. For this reason we decline to devote columns of space to advertising the stock of people who give us nothing for the service, and to that extent create competition for those who are paying us cash for exactly the same thing, and from whose money we derive our support.

But we are anxious that our advertis-

ers should understand that we have plenty of space in which to publish any good thing which comes to them from their patrons, and they are welcome to draw on us freely in this respect. Scores obtained at the poultry shows or otherwise, testimonials, complimentary allusions to manner of treatment or character of purchase, or anything which they believe it would be to their advantage to place before the public, we will always find a place for, though it takes half the space of the paper. If our advertisers will look to this we are sure that the money paid us will be well invested. And we should regret to know that we had accepted a dollar which had not brought an equivalent to the person from whom it came.

It should be apparent that the MESSENGER is working on small means, but its business is gradually improving, and we can assure our patrons that it is in the field to stay. Its circulation is being increased as fast as the difficulties with which it is beset will permit, and we have all confidence in being able, with the aid of the many warm friends we are gathering about us, to place it on a satisfactory plane of prosperity in the near future. It will never be a rival of the great publications like the The Reliable Poultry Journal or Farm-Poultry, but it will be a respectable little poultry paper of the second or third class and an agency of good to its patrons. And even in its present weakness it feels able to fully discharge the debt which it owes to those who are giving it their support if all its powers are concentrated to that end.

AUSABLE MICH., April 7, 1896.
The Messenger Co.,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Gentlemen: It is with pleasure I write to advise that my small advertisement has provoked more inquiries up to the present date than I anticipated, when contract was made, would be received during the whole year. The MESSENGER seems to circulate among those who desire to better their stock.

Very truly yours,
C. D. BATES.

LA SALLE, ILL., April 9, 1896
The Messenger Co.,
Aurelia, Iowa.

Gentlemen: I would like to know your rates for another year's contract in same space advertisement. We find the ad., considering the cost, to have paid us well—as well as any we have carried in some of the older and higher priced journals. We also consider the MESSENGER a No. 1 P. Journal and you can consider us life subscribers to it. May you have unlimited success.

J. A. WEERTS,
Successor to Conley & Co.

An Experience With Cross-Breeds

A friend who learned through private correspondence that we were experimenting to some extent with cross breeds, requests us to give through the MESSENGER our views concerning a pen of fowls on our grounds which are the result of crossing a Brown Leghorn cock on Barred Plymouth Rock hens.

These hens are all black and by many people have been mistaken for Black Minorcas. They are active, nervous birds, and the highest flyers we ever had about us. In this respect they can beat the Leghorns out of sight, having a greater length of wing without a corresponding increase in weight of form. But they are most excellent layers, being fully equal, we believe, to the full blood Leghorns. Early in the winter we were somewhat disappointed in them in this respect, as they did not begin laying at the time we expected they would. They looked so much like Leghorns that one could hardly think of them as anything else, and as they were not laying when the Leghorn pullets were we to a large extent lost our good opinion of the cross. We failed to consider that they were a larger bird than the Leghorns, and that it would require at least a month longer for them to attain their growth. But after they got down to work they proved to be wonderful layers, and not one of them has ever shown anything like broodiness. Their eggs are white shelled, slightly larger than those of the Leghorns as a whole, though not so even in shape.

But we cannot say that these cross breeds are in any particular superior to full blood Leghorns. Their laying qualities are certainly better than those of the Plymouth Rocks, and, we presume, for the table they would be preferable to the Leghorns, though we have made no test of their merits in that particular. But for the table the full blood Plymouth Rock would have the advantage of them at least in size if not quality of flesh, and for laying the Leghorns would be fully their equals. While this is a very profitable pen of fowls to us on account of the large number of eggs they are producing, it is not our purpose to keep them over another year unless we should happen to have a vacant house which by some accident we shall be unable to fill with other stock when winter arrives. We shall let them run during the summer, as they

are industrious foragers and will find almost their entire living on the range, but when fall comes they will be invited to "move off" if we succeed in rearing enough of selected full bloods to take up all our house room. On some accounts we believe this is one of the best crosses that can be made, but while giving these hens credit for all that is due them, we shall remain of the opinion that in the vast majority of cases it will pay best to stick to the full bloods.

Valuable Insecticides.

Lee's or Kentfield's Lice killer will completely rid your fowls of lice with less trouble and bother to yourself than any means which you can employ for that purpose. If one will make a trial of either of these preparations he will never be without it in the future. Treat every setting hen to a dose of this kind before the eggs are given to her, and if you have been given to complaining of your "bad luck" with your chicks in the past, you will have less occasion to do so in the future.

Breeding Disease.

A hen that has once been badly diseased, particularly if she has been affected with anything like roup, should never be used as a breeder. There is a well grounded belief that the poison of this affection when once introduced into the system is never entirely expelled from it. Though the fowl may show no outward evidence of anything of the kind, the germs of the disease are still hidden away in her system, and are liable to reappear in her progeny. The same is true of any disease of a contagious character. It will not pay to take the risks of anything of this kind even though you may have your doubts concerning the correctness of the theory.

The Wet Grass.

Keep the chicks out of the wet grass during the first few weeks of their lives. After they are a month old we would chance the grass rather than the close confinement, except during a prolonged rainy spell. Chicks which are strong and healthy at a month old will not suffer enough from the dew to make it worth while to keep them penned up and thereby deprive them of the increased number of insects which they will find in a half torpid state in the early hours of the day.

BREEDERS' CARDS.

CLEARING UP SALE! TO MAKE room for my breeding pens for the coming season I offer the balance of my stock at remarkably low prices. R. C. B. Leghorns, Partridge Cochins, Black Langshans, Light Brahmas and Black Minorcas. J. A. Weerts, La Salle, Ill.

FREDERICK E. COLEMAN, Manchester Green, Conn., breeder of Barred Ply. Rocks and W. C. Black Polish. Eggs for hatching, \$1.25 per 13; \$2.00 per 26. Good stock and fair play.

WILLIS WHINERY, SALEM, O., breeder of 20 varieties of full blood poultry. Eggs \$1 per 13; \$2 per 30. Write for what you want

SEND TO JOE FARMER, FLUSHING, Ohio, for circular of Choice Barred Plymouth Rocks and eggs.

BLACK MINORCAS, WINNERS at two banner shows, Cleveland and Pittsburg, winning eight premiums and two specials on eight entries at Pittsburg show. Fine breeding cockerels at reasonable prices. Eggs in season. Write for circular. Robert Mairer, Akron, Ohio.

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC BLK and White Langshans. E. A. R., sure roup cure. A. H. Ascher, Princeton, Ill.

L. BRAHMAS, B. JAVA, R. C. B. Leghorns, from high scoring birds. Eggs \$1.25 per 15. Geo. Hammetter, Sumner, Bremer county, Iowa.

SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS exclusively. Be sure and send for my illustrated circular—it is free. W. F. Metz, Ionia, Michigan.

PANSY POULTRY FARM, PANSY, Pa. Thirteen varieties of land and water fowls. Send stamp for circular.

MRS. M. A. SMITH, GILMAN, Iowa., has gilt edge stock of Black and White Langshans. Egg circular free.

GREAT BIG LIGHT BRAHMAS, Eggs and stock for sale in season at hard time prices. Our stock will suit you. L. M. Rowe, Galva, Iowa.

WHITE FACED BLK. SPANISH. I have bred them for 32 years. Eggs \$2 per 13. Discount on larger quantity. Circular and my photograph free. John Bennett, Sunman, Ripley County, Indiana.

BLACK LANGSHANS, L. BRAHMAS, and Laced Wyandottes. Eggs \$1.50 per 13, all first-class. Two eggs extra if you mention the MESSENGER. Stock for sale in the fall. S. E. Harsh, Newton, Iowa. (Jasper county.)

BUFF WYANDOTTE COCKERELS. Only a few left. Two dollars each. Or will exchange for honey bees. P. D. Wine, Aurelia, Iowa.

Notes About Chickens and Fruits. And Answers to Queries.

Address all communications for this department to O. P. Greer, Bourbon, Indiana, and mention the MESSENGER.

What is your treatment for diarrhea? I have lost a number of chicks this spring, and can't find anything that seems to do any good.—J. H. S.

My treatment for diarrhea is paragogic. Give your chicks a teaspoonful in a gill of water. They are always thirsty when troubled with diarrhea, and will take their medicine. If your chicks are exposed to a damp, cold place, they should be removed to clean, dry, warm quarters. If the feathers are stuck together near the vent, clean off very carefully with soap and warm water, and apply a little glycerine to the vent. Don't feed them exclusively on any one thing, but give them a variety of nice, wholesome food in small quantities. Sometimes diarrhea is caused by feeding too much green food. An overload of most anything will produce bad results. Little chicks that have to hustle and hunt for their living are always healthier than those that are stuffed and pampered. Throw some millet seed in two or three inches of chaff and let them scratch and hunt for it. In my opinion thousands of chicks are killed every year by pampering. Many fanciers in trying to produce birds that will be big enough to exhibit at the pumpkin shows next fall crowd the chicks from the time they are hatched until matured.

Which are considered the largest, the White, Brown or Black Leghorn? Which do you think will lay the largest eggs? Is the white as healthy as the brown?—E. H.

The White and Brown Leghorns are somewhat larger than the Blacks. It is claimed by some that the whites lay the larger egg. As to health, all are remarkably hardy, and no difference in this respect can be noticed.

Which incubator would you recommend?

I never run an incubator, and, therefore, my opinion would not be worth much. There is a number of good incubators on the market. Send and get all their circulars and examine for yourself.

Now is the time for hatching chicks. See that they have clean comfortable quarters. If a chick is stunted it will

never make a good healthy breeder. A great deal will depend upon the feed and care during the first days of the chick's life. Take exceedingly good care of all your poultry; don't get discouraged because somebody says you are a chicken crank. They will want to buy some of your nice chickens when they are struck with the chicken fever. If you want to make poultry profitable provide for them a variety of good, nutritious food, give them regular, systematic attention, and the results will be satisfactory. Follow nature closely, the knowledge gained by close study and practical experience is valuable. As long as you are in the business there will be something for you to learn.

When the hen fever strikes a man's vitals it is not always easy for him to decide how to start or what variety to keep. Many breeders are not satisfied until they try all the varieties in the standard, and some which are not yet admitted. This is a great waste of energy, and the people who do this are seldom successful.

Preparing for the Shows.

The time to prepare for the poultry shows is now when the little chicks are coming on to the stage of action and beginning to get themselves in shape to make money and reputation for their owner in the future. Too many people put off preparing for the show until a few weeks before the show takes place. Very little can be done at that late date towards fitting the bird up for a winner. In order to get a "good ready" the principal part of the work must be done in the hatching room. The bird that is ambitious to crow over everything within hearing next winter will find his main advantage in being "well

born." While plebian parentage may give ruggedness, and health, and vigor, it never gave existence to a fine show bird. The show qualities are the result of care, study and foresight, and are never a thing of accident.

Whitewash Just the Same.

Poultrymen of this day are fortunate in having good insect powders, and various liquid preparations for destroying vermin. By means of these things the work of keeping lice at a distance is much lightened. But the poultryman must not think that because he has this means of fighting the lice that he can be careless about keeping the poultry houses clean or neglect the means of disinfection which have long been regarded as a matter of prime importance. Whitewash is a good old standby of the poultryman, and it is not probable that the time will ever come when it can be safely dispensed with. But do your whitewashing with a sprayer. If necessary, get up a little earlier in the morning and work a little later at night in order to get the money to buy it. After you have it, the whitewashing will be no job at all, and the house will get a fresh coat of it oftener than if the owner had to do it in the old way.

Eggs of Pekin Ducks and Toulouse Geese for sale by

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS,
Aurelia, Iowa.

SIMPLEX HATCHER & BROODER combined. The most Perfect Incubator Made. Hatches every egg that a hen could hatch; Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum. Send for Illus. Catalogue. Simplex Manuf'g Co., Quincy, Ill.





Is held in the highest favor wherever used.

The Only Practical Portable Fence Made.

Send for full particulars and prices to the

WINONA FENCE CO.

Sole and only manufacturers, WINONA, MINN.

The "WINONA BRAND" Poultry Fence

Fruit Growing.

Cultivation of Fruit Trees.

The fruit trees must be cultivated. If a sod is permitted to gather about their roots their growth will be extremely slow, the increase of size being scarcely perceptible from year to year. People who are not willing to give cultivation to a young orchard would better save the cost of the trees in the first place, for they will hardly get paid for the outlay if the plan is to allow the trees to take care of themselves. A mulch about the trees is, perhaps, of as much advantage as cultivation. Many experienced orchardists contend that it is preferable. But in the west where the orchard is exposed to the sweep of the high winds of the prairies it is a difficult matter to keep the mulch in place. It is to be remembered too that the sites most suitable for the orchard are the elevated spots where the sweep of the wind is the strongest.

It is a singular thing, but it is a fact, that many otherwise well informed and intelligent farmers have a prejudice against frequent cultivation about the young fruit trees. They declare that the roots of the trees are thereby injured, and that the serious scaring and mutilation of the stems and branches of the trees is unavoidable when a cultivator and team are brought into use for this purpose. Of course there will be injury to the roots if the plow is run deeply into the ground, and the bark and branches of the trees will suffer if the person doing the work is a careless driver. But a driver of this kind has no business in the orchard. The cultivation should be very shallow, the shovels being allowed to only run deep enough to keep the surface of the ground perfectly loose and free from weeds. Where this is done no harm will be done to the roots.

The cultivation should be begun as early in the spring as the ground can be worked and repeated at short intervals until the first of August. If the ground is clean at that time there will be no growth of weeds during the balance of the season to amount to anything. Late cultivation encourages growth which may not become fully ripened before winter and is liable to

be killed by the freezing weather.

If anyone believes that the cultivation of young orchard trees is productive of harm to them let him make a test of the matter by selecting a few rows out of the plat and treating them as above suggested while leaving the balance of the orchard to make of itself what it will according to his favorite theory. In noting the results after a few years he will discover a marked difference in favor of the cultivated trees. A young orchard for the space of four feet on each side of the trees should be cultivated as carefully and kept as clean of weeds as the cornfield.

Unfermented Grape Juice.

A valued correspondent of The Tribune sends the following well tested rule for unfermented grape juice: "I have noticed directions for putting up grape juice, and as I think my method involves less waste of time and material I take the liberty of sending it to you. We use it freely during the hot weather as a grateful addition to the drinking water, and our family consider it superior to any of the various preparations we have used for this purpose, while it has the advantage of being comparatively cheap. After picking the grapes from the stems and putting them in the porcelain-lined kettle, I turn on sufficient water to just cover them, heat to boiling, and boil well for say ten minutes, and then while hot strain through a stout and rather coarse towel, using the same method to squeeze out the juice that I use with my lard, using the lard squeezers. I then boil the juice again, skimming well, and add from one-third to one-half pound of white sugar to each pint of the juice, and can while boiling hot the same as any fruit. This is put in the cellar, and will keep for years without fermenting, while it is beautifully clear, and is heavier and richer than if the juice is strained without pressure."—N. Y. Tribune.

Good fruit will not grow itself, and this is the objection which many people have to fruit growing. A good crop is contingent upon seasons, insect enemies, and all the other conditions which have to be encountered in the growing of anything else. But there are no greater difficulties to be overcome in the growing of fruits than in the growing of corn or potatoes. There is no

great mystery about it except that for some unaccountable reason people will not bring to bear upon it the same good judgment which is deemed necessary to success in any other branch of husbandry. Nothing of any importance can be learned without some effort, but many people appear to think this true of everything else but fruit-growing.

K ENTFIELD'S L IQUID L OUSE K ILLER	Harmless TO FOWLS. Quick Results. Sure death to all kinds of Poultry Lice. Hundred are using it. Why don't you?
	J. A. KENTFIELD, Morrison, Illinois.

GALVANIZED
 WOVEN WIRE



FENCING
 WIRE ROPE SELVAGE.

Poultry, Farm, Garden, Cemetery,
Lawn, Railroad and Rabbit
Fencing.

Thousands of miles in use. Catalogue Free.
Freight Paid. Prices Low.

The McMULLEN WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO.
 114, 116, 118 and 120 N. Market St., CHICAGO, ILL.

MAPLE HILL

Fruit Farm!

1,000,000 Small Fruit Plants for 1896.

« Strawberries a Specialty. »

All plants dug from new beds, guaranteed true to name, and well rooted. Send for catalogue and price list.

Special Offer:—For \$1.00 received before April 1st we will send postpaid 50 Warfield, 50 Crescent, 50 Jessie, 50 Michaels Early strawberry plants, and 1 each of Gregg and Palmer blackraspberry plants.

ELMER BRINTNALL,
Winthrop, Iowa.

LADIES Make big money, quick sales and lasting customers selling our Mackintosh skirts and other new goods. Be first to sell them. Fresh territory. Catalogue free.

Ladies Supply Company,

3118, Forest Ave., Chicago.

Don't prune the branches of the young cherry trees. It is a well settled fact that the cherry trees will do best if the branches are left just as they are when the trees are received from the nursery.

Plant the peas in a trench five or six inches deep. Sow thickly and cover with about an inch of soil. As the vines push upward gradually draw the loose earth into the trench until it is full, and later on continue this process until a slight mound is formed the whole length of the row.

In this latitude the 1st of May is early enough to remove the covering from the plants in the small fruit garden. Many berry patches have been ruined by uncovering during the first warm spell of early spring. The plants are very tender when first raised out of the earth, and quickly succumb to the "cold snaps" which are liable to come any time during the month of April.

It is generally conceded that mulching currant bushes is preferable to cultivation. The roots of the currant lie very close to the surface of the ground, and even the shallowest cultivation will subject them to more or less injury. Many of the most successful growers of small fruits have for the above reason abandoned the use of the cultivator about the currant and depend upon a heavy coat of coarse manure or straw for the prevention of a growth of weeds about the bushes.

Fruit trees are often killed by drouth, and the damage charged by the losers to the cold winters. In the northwest we have had an example of this during the past two or three years—the drouth being responsible for the loss of a large number of both fruit and forest trees. The effect of the drouth upon the trees is not seen at once, and for that reason the real cause of the trouble is so often attributed to the wrong source. During a prolonged drouth the tree is able to sustain itself by the roots which strike deeply in the ground and shows no signs of suffering when other vegetation is reduced to a parched condition. But when the supply of moisture within reach of its longest roots runs short it dies as certainly as does the stalk of corn or tuft of grass. And as this often happens after a fall of rain which has revived shallow rooted vegetation, or between fall and spring, cold weather or something else is made to stand the blame for the damage.

Buff Plymouth Rocks

EXCLUSIVELY.

I am Breeding
Three Pens of Them.

PEN NUMBER ONE CONTAINS

Four Pullets scoring respectively 93, 93½, 94, 94½, winning everything at Illinois State Fair, Bloomington, and Illinois State Poultry Shows.

For utility and beauty the Buff is the Rock of them all. Mine are the original Coin Gold strain, and their score proves their standard value.

EGGS \$3.00 PER SETTING.

Get a setting and climb with us to the summit of glory on Plymouth Rock.

ISRAEL ROOT, Bloomington, Illinois.

White Plymouth Rocks.

ALFRED ANDREY,
Aurelia, Iowa.

CHOICE STOCK

A. L. BELEW, AURELIA,
Iowa.

◆◆◆BREEDER OF◆◆◆

BLACK LANGSHANS

No stock for sale.

Eggs \$2.00 per setting of 15.

Do You

Ever stop to think how few there are engaged in poultry keeping as a business who ever make a success of it? A fancier who has a flock of thoroughbreds as a hobby is successful if he only get a pleasure for his pains. He keeps hens. It is one thing to

Keep Hens

And another to make hens keep you. Sickness in the fowls and mortality among the broods causes many failures. These, traced to their source, would bring up among vermin. There's a breed of lice for all sizes and conditions of chickenhood to fowldom, which in addition to destroying life and vitality, worry their victims worse than the "Seven Years Itch;"

And Lice?

Must be kept at a distance. Lambert's "Death to Lice" is offered to you because it does the work quickly, cheaply and well; if it don't, send it back and get your money. It is to my interest to to make it as good as possible, and I do.

RETAIL PRICES:

5 oz. box postpaid 10 cents; 15-oz box 25 cents, postpaid 40 cts; 48-oz package 40 cents, postpaid \$1. 100-oz package, delivered to your Express Co. for \$1.

DEALERS SELL IT. SO DO WE, LOTS OF IT.

Pocket Book Pointers Sent Free. D. J. LAMBERT, Apponaug, R. I.

Bone and Shell FOR POULTRY.

Circular explaining benefit and how to feed it, and prices on lots of 100 lbs or more, delivered, freight paid at your railroad station, address

Fitch Fertilizer Works, Bay City, Mich.

Raw Bone has been proven by analysis to contain every part of an egg—White, Yolk and Shell. The lime of oyster shell furnishes shell material. The granulated size is for adult fowls; the meal is for chicks, and mixed with soft food. For

Nonpareil Poultry Yards, La Salle, Illinois.

J. A. WEERTS, PROP.

Breeder of
ROSE-COMB BROWN LEGHORNS, SINGLE AND ROSE COMB BLACK MINORCAS.

No eggs for sale this season. Stock for sale in the fall, with score cards.

Our CLUBBING List.

WOMANKIND,

Published at Springfield, Ohio, a 16-page, 64-column monthly journal for Woman and Home,..... 50 Cents.

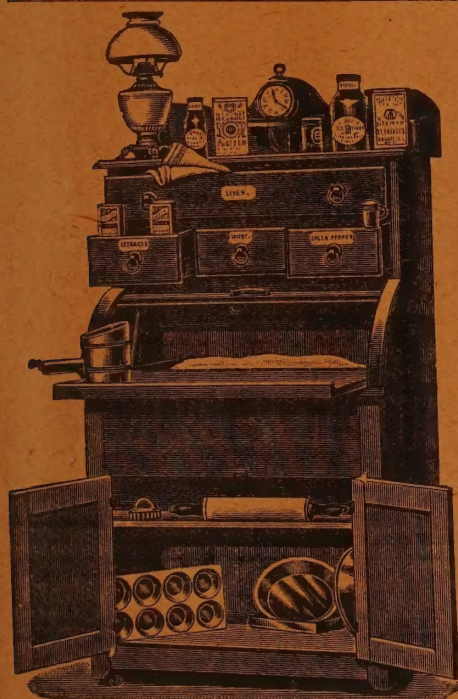
FARM NEWS,

Sixteen large pages. A high class monthly journal for all departments of the farm,..... 50 Cents.

The Poultry Messenger, Twenty-five Cents.

The 3 Papers for 50 Cents.

This is the lowest clubbing offer that can possibly be made. If you want to take advantage of it you had better do so at once, as we do not know how long we can continue it.



THE QUEEN
OF ALL IS

Woods Kitchen Cabinet

So the hundreds of housewives who have used it claim.

◆ ◆ ◆ POINTS: ◆ ◆ ◆

- 1st. Is a Necessity for any well regulated kitchen.
- 2nd. It is almost a complete kitchen within itself.
- 3rd. Saves Labor and material.

- 4th. Occupies small space.
- 5th. Honestly made and will never leak flour.
- 6th. Is an ornament. Easy to pay for.

We pay the freight- Send for catalogue to
RAUSCH MFG COMPANY, 274 Wabash Avenue, Chicago,

Improved Chester Whites



BY MAIL.

Not the whole hog, but photographs of the very individual we offer you. Send us a description of what you want and we will send you a photograph of what we think will suit you. If you wish to purchase, we will send them free to be returned with order

WILLIS WHINERY, Salem, Ohio



THE
Ideal Skirt Hanger.

Use the Ideal and your dress will not look old after being worn a few times. Simple to use, inexpensive, and never gets out of order. Adjustable to any size. The Ideal is also used for hanging the dress waist upon. The Ideal Pantaloons hanger answers the same purpose for gentlemen in hanging their trousers as does the skirt hanger for ladies. Retail price, 25 c; three for 50c.

H. G. TUCKER,
Logansport, Indiana

407, 409, 411, 413 Fourth St.

A Beautiful LAWN TENT

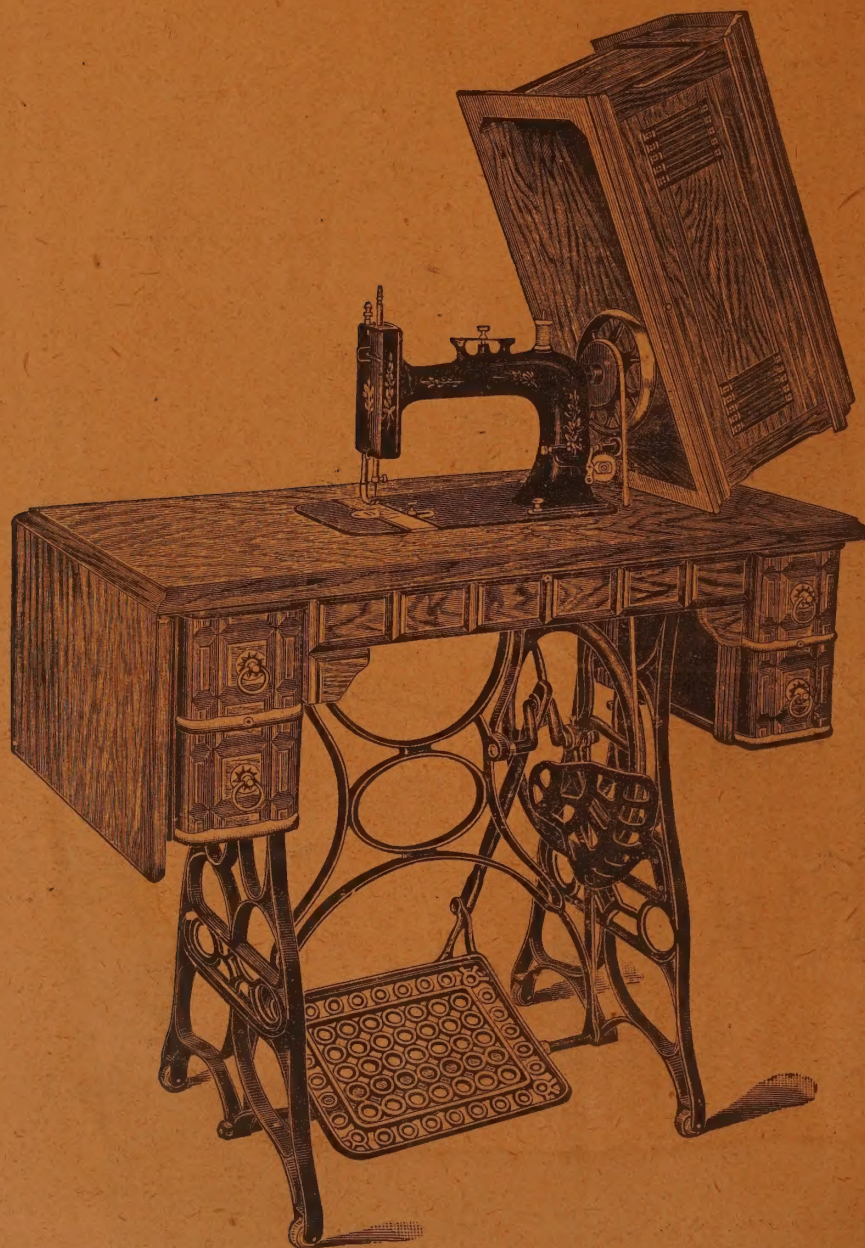
For \$5.00. Worth Double the Price.



7½ feet Square. Made of the best material in either blue or brown stripe. Just the thing for the lawn and absolutely indispensable for a picnic. Sent on receipt of \$5.00, ready for use. Headquarters for Camping Tents and Tents of all kinds. Send for illustrated Catalogue and Price List.

McAULEY-PETERS TENT & AWNING CO.
61 East Gay St., COLUMBUS, OHIO.

A 40-DOLLAR Sewing Machine FOR \$17.50.



We Pay the Freight

To any railroad point east of the Rocky Mountains, and contract to take the machine back and refund the money if it is not as represented. Send for descriptive circular and testimonials of people who are using it.

The Messenger Company, AURELIA, IOWA

FOR SALE

Black and Golden Wyandottes, Blk Minorcas, Andalusians, Leghorns, W. Cochins, Pigeons.

Grand View Poultry Yards,
DUBUQUE, IOWA.

A BARGAIN COLLECTION OF

FLOWER SEEDS



10 Choice Annuals, (everybody's favorites), all new, fresh seeds, sure to grow and bloom this season. Pansy, 40 colors and markings; Phlox, 20 colors; Verbena, 18 colors; Pinks 10 colors; Petunia, 10 colors; Asters, 12 colors; Balsam, 8 colors; Sweet Peas, 12 colors; Mignonne and Sweet Alyssum.

FOR 12 CENTS and the name and address of two of your friends who grow flowers, I will send, postpaid, the complete collection, one pkt. each of the ten varieties (enough for any ordinary garden.) This is a **BONAFIDE** offer, made to introduce my home grown flower seeds to new customers and which I guarantee to please you or the amount paid refunded and the seeds given as a present.

Miss C. H. LIPPINCOTT,
319 and 323 Sixth St. So., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

RAIL ROAD Lands

FOR SALE AT LOW PRICES AND ON EASY TERMS.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company offers for sale on easy terms and at low prices, 150,000 acres of choice fruit, gardening, farm and grazing lands located in

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.

They are also largely interested in, and call especial attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous

Yazoo Valley OF MISSISSIPPI

lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad Company, and which that company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the Yazoo Valley, Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill., or G. W. McGINNIS, Ass't Land Commissioner, Memphis, Tenn.